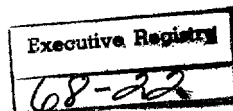


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30 December 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Report of Far East Trip
27 November-15 December 1967

1. The primary purpose of my trip was to participate in the Far East Station Chiefs' Meeting in [redacted]. The secondary purposes were to obtain some familiarity with the Far East (my first trip there), [redacted]

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Far East Station Chiefs' Meeting

2. Participation in the Station Chiefs' Meeting gave me an opportunity to become better acquainted with the general objectives, operational problems, and accomplishments of each of the stations in the Far East. I was particularly impressed with the wide variety of circumstances within which the various stations operate, ranging from the overt military situation in Vietnam and the [redacted] to the quiet [redacted]. More important, however, the meeting provided me with my first real exposure to Clandestine Services people "at work and play". What before the meeting was little more than a list of names with biographic information attached became a group of highly dedicated, competent, and intelligent individuals who were critically evaluating what they were doing. I was much impressed.

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3. My role in these meetings was rather limited. Early in the meeting I was given the opportunity to speak. I reviewed the way the Agency's finished intelligence product is requested and received by McNamara, Nitze, Rostow, Rusk, and the President, and the praise we have been receiving. We were being tasked not

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only for political and economic appreciations, as would be expected, but also for military assessments because of our knowledgeability, objectivity, and ability to present our findings in an understandable and concise fashion.

4. The direct contacts with these policy makers, I said, gave us a comprehensive understanding of the priorities which should be assigned various intelligence problems. I outlined the more important priorities as follows:

- a. By all odds Southeast Asia, particularly North Vietnam, was the major preoccupation of these policy makers and thus should be our highest priority intelligence problem.
- b. After this, there was a wide gap into which enters various crises as they develop. As examples I gave the Arab/Israeli problem, Cyprus, and Greece. I outlined the task force arrangements we usually instituted and described

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- c. Then came the more long-term problems of the Soviet military posture and developments in Communist China. With respect to the latter, I noted that most of the consumers were numbed by discussions of personalities and what really was needed was hard information on the effects of the cultural revolution on the political, military, and economic posture and intentions of the country.

5. There were discussions of some of these points during the meetings and at informal conversations with individual station chiefs. I also outlined the kinds of information we were getting from various photographic and other technical collection systems. My objectives were to discourage the collection of such information by the station chiefs and to encourage them to focus their assets on important questions whose answers can only be acquired from human sources. My only other participation was to raise questions about the usefulness and effectiveness of some of the operations that were being carried out or planned.

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6. Throughout the discussions Bill Colby emphasized the need for collection against the more difficult targets of North Vietnam, China, and the USSR; it was clear that all in attendance got the message. Although the meetings were long, I must say Bill did an outstanding job of informing, motivating, and generally refurbishing the station chiefs. Near the end of the session, Colby passed the baton of Chief/FE to [] At this point I noted, on behalf of the Directorate of Intelligence, that we found FE to be by far the most cooperative Division in the Clandestine Services and that we hoped the close relations fostered by Bill Colby would continue in the future.

DDI Activities

7. I acquired an excellent appreciation of what each of our posts* did and how well it was being done. At every stop I was fully briefed on the local situation and all possible efforts were made to give me a feel for the country.

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8. Of all of the [] posts I visited, [] seemed to have the greatest need to hear "what's going on in Headquarters." (I will check this out with [] This, my first visit

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Miscellaneous

9. While in [] I visited State's [] Unit to learn about its experience [] overseas. Its history of operation clearly shows []

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10. [] invited me to address his weekly staff meeting. The substance of my presentation was much the same as my remarks at the Field Chiefs' Meeting.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	DISPATCH.	<input type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMENDATION
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